

HOUSE No. 140

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Danielle W. Gregoire

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act to assess the impact of the public welfare system on the health and well being of of children.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Danielle W. Gregoire	4th Middlesex

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 118 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO ASSESS THE IMPACT OF THE PUBLIC WELFARE SYSTEM ON THE HEALTH AND WELL BEING OF OF CHILDREN.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority
of the same, as follows:*

1 The Department of Public Health, in conjunction with other child and family-serving agencies, shall
2 conduct an annual child assessment as part of a child surveillance study on the impact of the public
3 welfare system on the health and well-being of the children and youth (birth through age 18) of the
4 Commonwealth. Said child health assessment shall include but not be limited to: the measure and
5 assessment of nutritional status (through height and weight measurements); birth outcomes status
6 (especially birthweights); poverty status; school readiness status and safety status (including injury
7 prevalence rates and hospitalization rates) of children and youth in the Commonwealth. Said annual child
8 health assessment statement shall be submitted to the House and Senate Ways and Means Committees,
9 the Human Services Committee, the Health Care Committee, the Educational Committee, and the
10 Massachusetts Legislative Children's Caucus April 1, of each year.